



Family Employment and Support Program (FESP)

What is FESP?

FESP is a court supervised program that assists non-custodial parents who are behind in their child support payments to obtain full-time employment. Participants are required to submit employment applications and meet with court employment coordinators weekly for job referrals. Specialized assistance and resume writing is provided based on need.

FESP Client Profile

- Average age is 37 years old
- 86% have criminal backgrounds – mostly drug related
- 79% are African Americans
- 75% live with parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles or siblings
- 60% live in Baltimore City but have a court order in Baltimore County
- About 62% have a high school diploma, GED or above

FESP Results

- 285 Parents in program
- 95 Parents currently in program and paying child support (one third of entire client base)
- 36 Employer and 6 training programs
- Average length of time to obtain employment is 8.4 weeks.
- Median income is \$12.62 per hour

- Program Operation 22 months
- First 7 months, FESP collected \$35,448.39 (average of \$5,064 per month.)
- Next 12 months, FESP collected \$292,921.16 (average of \$24,410.09 per month)
- Last 3 months, FESP Collected \$103,688.69 (average of \$34,562.89 per month)
- Anticipate \$414,000 annually in collections
- Collection to cost-to-operate ratio is \$4.10/1.00

Additional Benefits

- More Parents Employed in the Community Paying Child Support
- Improved Relationships with Children so that they may reach their full potential
- Higher Self Esteem of Clients
- More Accountability in Addressing Personal Problems
- Improving Local Economy/More Income Tax Collections